

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Original) An ultrasonic diagnostic device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the ultrasonic diagnostic device comprising:

an information calculating unit operable to calculate diagnostic information from the ultrasound image;

a time predicting unit operable to predict a time at which the calculated diagnostic information takes a characteristic value by using the diagnostic information; and

an image generating unit operable to generate an ultrasound image for the object at the predicted time.

Claim 16. (Original) The ultrasonic diagnostic device of Claim 15, wherein the diagnostic information shows a volume of the object, and

the characteristic value is either a local maximum or a local minimum of the volume.

Claim 17. (Cancelled)

Claim 18. (Original) An image processing device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the image processing device comprising:

an information calculating unit operable to calculate diagnostic information from the ultrasound image;

a time predicting unit operable to predict a time at which the calculated diagnostic information takes a characteristic value by using the diagnostic information; and

an image generating unit operable to generate an ultrasound image for the object at the predicted time.

Claims 19-21 (Cancelled)

Claim 22. (Original) A program to have a computer function as an ultrasonic diagnostic device that generates and displays an ultrasound image containing an image of an object which is subject to examination in accordance with reflection of ultrasound, the program including:

- an information calculating step for calculating diagnostic information from the ultrasound image;

- a time predicting step for predicting a time at which the calculated diagnostic information takes a characteristic value by using the diagnostic information; and

- an image generating step for generating an ultrasound image for the object at the predicted time.